

OVOFERRIN.

Ovoferrin is a solution containing 5 per cent. of an artificial proteid-product in which iron is present in the so-called "organic" or "masked" form (a form which does not give the iron-test directly). The solution also contains 10 per cent. of alcohol and some aromatics.

Actions and Uses.—Ovoferrin is not appreciably affected by the gastric juice, a 0.5 per cent. solution of hydrochloric acid liberating its iron very slowly and incompletely. The product ranks with the other forms of artificially masked iron, which are devoid of the local action of the soluble inorganic iron salts, and, according to some authorities, are more readily absorbed and utilized. **Dosage.**—8 to 16 Cc. (2 to 4 fluidrams) corresponding to from 0.03 to 0.06 Gm. ($\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 grain) three times a day. Manufactured by Barnes & Hille, Philadelphia.

The following articles were added to the list of New and Non-Official Remedies, approved by the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry:

Guaiacol Carbonate Comp. (H. K. Mulford Co.)
Neuro-Lecithin. (Abbott Alkaloidal Co.)
Lecithol. (Armour & Co.)

H. M. C. TABLETS.

A correspondent writes:

"The January number of our Journal has just reached me, and I am very glad to note that you have referred so emphatically to the 'H. M. C.' tablets. I have heard of several babies born dead after the tablets had been used during confinement, but of course cannot be sure that the anesthetic was the cause. I believe hyoscin and morphin must be used with great care, if at all, in obstetric work, and I suspect that this free advertising of that combination by the Abbott Company is doing and will do much harm. Chloroform, used correctly, seems to me an almost ideal anesthetic for this work, as it is always under control, while anything given hypodermically is immediately beyond control and can not be called back. Furthermore, this applies very strongly to the fact that one is throwing into the fetal circulation extremely powerful chemicals without knowing what the result will be."

CONTRACT PRACTICE.

To the Editor of the State Journal:

Considerable has been said recently about the old line insurance companies cutting the examination fee from \$5.00 to \$3.00. In San Joaquin county recently a circular letter was sent to every member asking them to send the Secretary a list of all the insurance companies they examined for, also stating the fee paid, as an effort was to be made to make them restore the old rate.

That action was commendable and will, no doubt, bring good results; but there is a greater menace to our fee bill than this and far more demoralizing to the profession, to wit: Contract practice for lodges. Think of a doctor joining a lodge and signing a contract to do, not only the members' practice, but that of his entire family, for the pitiful sum of two dollars a year, if he live within seven miles of the lodge room!

Could anything be more demoralizing? Could a physician possessing any professional pride submit to such indignity? And yet the lodge doctor will say, "If I don't do it some other doctor will."

For the same reason would he perform an abortion and secure the fee, because if he did not some other doctor would?

If a new doctor comes in and goes to cutting the fees for the sake of getting practice, the profession sneer at him and rate him a cheap doctor, and yet nothing is quite so cheap as the lodge doc-

tor who does the whole family practice for two dollars a year. The insurance examination at one dollar would not be low enough to be in the same class. If the medical profession expect to maintain the respectability to which they are entitled they will take steps at once to suppress this great menace to the fee bill.

S. W. HOPKINS, M. D.

TRAINING IN MEDICAL ORGANIZATION.

The students of the University of Pennsylvania Medical School have formed an organization the purpose of which is to acquaint the undergraduates with the workings of the American Medical Association, after which it is very closely modeled. The various student societies take the place of the state organizations and elect members to a house of delegates which transacts all the business of the association. An annual meeting is held at which papers are read by chosen members, thus encouraging original research and a scientific spirit. The organization is named the Undergraduate Medical Association of the University of Pennsylvania, and already has over two hundred and fifty members.

COUNTY SOCIETIES.**BUTTE COUNTY.**

The regular monthly meeting of the Butte County Medical Society was held in Chico the evening of December 13th at the office of Dr. N. T. Enloe. The following members were present: O. Hawkins of Biggs, L. L. Thompson of Gridley, C. L. Browning, O. Stansbury, N. T. Enloe, E. F. Gatchell of Chico, and Dr. Wullschlager of the United States Army as a visitor.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Dr. L. Q. Thompson of Gridley; vice-president, Dr. C. L. Browning of Chico; secretary and treasurer, Ella F. Gatchell of Chico; member of board of census, N. T. Enloe of Chico.

Drs. C. L. Browning of Chico, E. Kusel of Oroville, O. Hawkins of Biggs and L. Q. Thompson of Gridley were appointed a committee to confer with the local boards of health in the respective towns relative to the pure food and drug laws.

An able paper was presented by Dr. W. H. Banks on "Diabetes," in which he stated fully the different suppositions relative to the disease. The subject was still further discussed by Dr. Stansbury and other members. It was voted to hold the next meeting at Oroville in January.

ELLA F. GATCHELL, Secretary.

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY.

The annual meeting of the San Joaquin County Medical Society was held Dec. 30, 1907, at the office of Dr. R. R. Hammond, with the following attendance: Drs. M. Goodman, J. D. Young, S. W. R. Langdon, S. F. Priestly, H. E. Sanderson, E. L. Blackmun, B. F. Walker, J. J. Tully, E. A. Arthur, R. R. Hammond, W. W. Fitzgerald, I. S. Zeimer, C. L. Six, Hudson Smythe, H. C. Petersen, A. W. Hoisholt, J. P. Hull, F. R. Clarke, R. B. Knight, H. N. Cross and C. R. Harry.

A communication to Dr. W. W. Fitzgerald was received from the New York Life Insurance Co. relative to the fee for medical examination in life insurance. It was moved and seconded that the Secretary reply to the same and inform the company that the society did not permit any of its members to make an examination for less than \$5.00.

This being the annual meeting, the election of